The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

W. P. SHINN, Business Manager.

TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; daily, by carriers, $10 per year; 25 cents per week; subscribers by mail, $10 00.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor. Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Commercial Matter, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: For Year (52 issues), $2 00; In Clubs of Ten Copies, $1 50; one copy gratis to agent up of the Club.

The Weekly should be ordered by postmasters wherever none is taken, and in no case will it be sent unless ordered. Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

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VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 25, 1873. NO. 143.

FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Local Option Supplement Meets With Another Reverse.

New Bills Introduced in the Senate and House—State Treasurer Election Bill Reported Negatively.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, Pa., February 24, 1873.

SENATE.

The following bills were introduced:

Mr. Graham—Extending the law authorizing the construction of sewers in Allegheny city to the borough of Sharpsburg.

Mr. Humphreys—To incorporate the Pennsylvania Colony Improvement Company; also to incorporate the St. Clair bank of Pittsburgh —Thomas Hill, E. A. Goodwin, Jno. H. Gill and others corporators.

Mr. Maclay—To repeal the charter of Clarion River Improvement Company.

Mr. Delamater—To charter the Amondale Railroad Company of Crawford county, to connect with city railroads.

Mr. McClure endeavored to have the resolution of instruction to Congressmen amended by having the United States Senator elected by the people, giving as a reason the conspicuous position of the State and the fact that her hands are now so clean. The amendment was lost.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following bills were read:

Mr. Ewing—To incorporate the Pittsburgh Iron, Coal and Steel Company; Alexander Chambers, Robert Woods, Thomas M. Marshall, and others, corporators.

Mr. Sample—To repeal the supplement of the National Deposit Company, passed February, 1870.

Mr. Ramsey—To authorize the School Directors of the Eleventh ward, Pittsburgh, to sell real estate, containing a special warrant clause; also, to authorize the M. E. church of Birmingham to sell real estate.

Mr. Wainwright—To extend to the East End Life Insurance and Trust Company the supplement to Amental bank.

Mr. McCormack—To incorporate the Farmers and Mechanics' Land Association of Pittsburgh; also, supplement to Penn Avenue Building and Loan Association of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Morris—Act authorizing corporations organized under general laws to borrow money.

Mr. Smith—To incorporate the Consolidated Company of Fayette county, E. C. Pechin and others corporators; also to authorize the School Directors of Fayette City to levy a per capita tax to build a school house; he also presented the petition of citizens of Fayette county to prevent the removal or supporting columns of coal mines in said county.

Mr. Ballentine—Act to vacate Canal, a street in the city of Pittsburgh.

State Treasurer.

The act providing for the election of a State Treasurer was reported with a negative recommendation.

Allegheny Local Option Bill.

The act supplementary to the Local Option bill, as far as the same relates to Allegheny county, being on the Speaker's table, he was about to refer the same to the Committee on Vice and Immorality, whereupon Mr. Ballentine moved to suspend the rules and refer the bill to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Temple objected.

On a division there were thirty-seven for the motion and twenty-nine against standing vote. Lost for want of a two-third vote. There was no call for the previous question, so there is no person on the record. This is a virtual defeat of the bill, as its reference to the Committee of Vice and Immorality was supported by the liquor men.

THE FISHERIES.

Message from the President.

Required Legislation Urged Upon Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 24, 1873.

The President sent the following message to-day:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In my annual message to Congress at the opening of the second session of the present Congress, in December, 1871, I recommended legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the Treaty of Washington of May 8th, 1871, relative to the fisheries and other matters touching the relations of the United States towards the British North American possessions, to become operative as soon as such legislation should be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. Legislation on the part of Great Britain and its possessions had not then been had. Having, prior to the meeting of Congress in November last, received an official intimation of the consideration by Great Britain and its possession of legislation necessary on their part to bring those articles into operation, I communicated the facts to Congress in my annual message at the opening of the present session, and urged the necessary legislation for your early adoption of legislation in the same direction, inasmuch as the part of this government. The near approach of the end of the session induces me again to urgently call your attention to the importance of the subject of legislation on the part of Congress. It must be remembered that the Treaty of Washington resulted from an overture on the part of Great Britain to treat with reference to the fisheries on the coast of Her Majesty's possessions in North America, and other questions between them, affecting the relations of the United States toward those possessions. To this overture reply was made on the part of the United States expressing appreciating the importance of a friendly and complete understanding between the two governments with reference to those questions specially affecting the British government, it was thought the removal of grievances growing out of the past, which were generally known as the Alabama claims was essential to the restoration of that cordial and amicable relations between the two governments, and the assent of this government to treat on the subjects of the fisheries and the navigation on the assent of Great Britain to allow the joint commission, which it had proposed, to consider the questions suggested by that government, to treat also and settle the differences growing out of the Alabama claims. Great Britain assented to this and the Treaty of Washington proposed a settlement of both classes of questions. Those relating to the Alabama claims and to the northwestern water boundary, commonly known as the San Juan question, were referred to a board of arbitration of the terms of the treaty. Those relating to the fisheries were made, by the terms of the treaty, to depend upon the legislation which by the constitutions of the representative governments under the treaty are required to carry it into effect. Great Britain and her possessions have on their part enacted the necessary legislation.

This government is now enjoying the advantages of those provisions of the treaty which were the result of the concession of Great Britain in regard to questions which Great Britain had submitted. The Tribunal of Geneva has made an award in favor of the United States on the Alabama claims and His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, has decided in favor of the contention of this government in the Northwestern boundary line.

I cannot urge too strongly the importance of your early consideration of the legislation that may be necessary on the part of this government. In addition to the claim that Great Britain may have upon the good faith of this government to consider the legislation necessary in connection with the question which that government presented as a subject of negotiation which has resulted so favorably to this government upon other questions in which the United States felt so much interest, it is of importance that the rights of our citizens, fishermen, provided for under the treaty, should be determined before the now approaching fishing season opens and that serious difficulties to the fishing interest and grave questions between the two governments that may arise therefrom be averted.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Feb. 24, 1873.

CRIMES.

Probably Fatal Shooting Affray.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CAMBRIDGE CITY, IND., February 24, 1873.

A shooting affair occurred here late on Saturday night. John Ware, living in this vicinity, was in Mauney's store when an acquaintance, named Pritchard, came in. Ware produced a bottle of whisky and insisted on Pritchard drinking with him. He refused, when Ware attempted to compel him to drink, throwing the bottle in his face, which he (Pritchard) knocked from his hand. Ware became so angry at this that he pulled out a pistol and shot Pritchard, the ball entering the face and taking an upward course. The doctors say the wound will prove fatal. Ware was arrested and lodged in jail.

Difficulty Between Railroad Men.

LOUISVILLE, February 24.—Charles Pratt, conductor on the Louisville and Nashville Short Line Railroad, was shot in the right breast with a pistol this evening, at the depot, by Charles Young, a brakeman on the same road. The quarrel which resulted in the shooting grew out of a difficulty yesterday concerning the coupling of a train. Pratt having hanged Young with disabling orders. Young was arrested. Pratt's wound is dangerous, but the physician thinks his recovery possible.

CASUALTIES.

Railroad Cars Thrown Over a Bridge—Several Passengers Injured—One Dangerously.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., February 24, 1873.

As the train north on the Jackson, Lansing and Saginaw Railroad was passing over a bridge, two miles north of Jackson, a broken rail threw two coaches from the track, precipitating them from the bridge a distance of ten feet. Five or six passengers were badly wounded and several bruised. Among the injured was Representative Blackman, of Dickinson, who is so badly injured that no hopes are entertained of his recovery. Conductor Sellers was injured internally, but not dangerously. Mr. Davis, Superintendent of the American Telegraph Company was slightly injured. The passengers were all from Jackson, where they are receiving all possible care and attention. It is considered miraculous that the greater portion of the passengers were not killed outright. The weather here is very cold, ranging from zero to fifteen below at night.

Caldwell's Friends in Kansas Jubilant.

LEAVENWORTH, KS., February 16.—The friends of Caldwell here are offering wagers of large sums of money that the Senator will retain his place in the senate. The sudden election was caused by the arrival from Washington to-day of Law monitor Gov. T. Leggone, who were assorted to have positive assurances that Logan and Carpenter will sustain Caldwell and oppose Morton's propositions. Caldwell men feel good.

XLII CONGRESS.

Agricultural Colleges—The Case of Senator Caldwell Put Over—Message from the President Relative to the Fisheries—Reports on the Proposed Impeachment of the Vice President and Government Railroad Director Brooks—River and Harbor and Naval Appropriation Bills—Wrangle in the House Over Increase of Salaries.

WASHINGTON, February 24, 1873.

SENATE.

On motion of Mr. EDMUNDS, the Attorney General was directed to obtain certain information about the operations of the Bankrupt law.

Bills were passed granting the right of way to the Wabaunsia and Columbia River Railroad Company.

Mr. BILL presented the credentials of General Gordon, Senator elect from Georgia.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

On motion of Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, the Agricultural College bill was taken up.

Mr. WINDOM moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Public Lands, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of devoting the proceeds of the sales of public lands to the equalization of soldiers' bounties. This bill as it came from the House proposed, he said, to dispose of forever one-half of the public lands.

Mr. SHERMAN—Three-quarters.

Mr. WINDOM said he understood the bill to dispose of only one-half. But even on that basis it would in effect pledge the government to these colleges for the sum of $24,000,000, and he did not think the country could afford that.

At the suggestion of Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, and Mr. Conkling, Mr. WINDOM modified his motion to refer by striking out the instruction as to equalization of bounties, but said that as one of the members of the Committee on Public Lands he would keep that object in view.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, said that Mr. Sherman was wrong as to the quantity of public lands that the bill would take. It was one-half and not three-quarters.

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Mr. MORTON rose to a question of privilege and moved to lay the pending bill on the table for the purpose of considering the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in the Caldwell case.

Mr. LOGAN moved to postpone the Caldwell case until to-morrow.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, thought it had better go over for the session of March.

Mr. MORTON—It is in the discharge of my duty that I urge this matter. It is for the Senate to determine what action they will take. If they pass it to-day, and not to-morrow, or until the 4th of March, and then drop it, the report will be worth but little.

The question was taken on Mr. Morton's motion to lay the pending bill on the table for the purpose of taking up the Caldwell case, and it was decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alcorn, Allen, Casserly, Cole, Conkling, Cooper, Fenton, Ferry (Conn.), Goldthwaite, Hamilton (Maryland), Hamilton (Texas), Hill, Machen, Morton, Norwood, Pratt, Ransom, Sherman, Stevenson, Stockton, Tipton, Trumbull—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Blair, Boreman, Brownlow, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Dennis, Edmunds, Ferry (Michigan), Flanagan, Hamlin, Harlan, Hitchcock, Howe, Kelly, Lewis, McCreery, Morrill (Maine), Nye, Patterson, Pool, Ramsey, Rice, Robertson, Sawyer, Scott, Spencer, Sprague, Stewart, West, Windom and Wright—32.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AGAIN.

The Senate proceeded with the consideration of the Agricultural Colleges bill, when, after some of Windom's motion to refer the bill to Committee on Public Lands was lost—Yeas 17, nays 30.

Mr. WE-T moved to lay the bill on the table, for the purpose of taking up the Army Appropriation bill. Carried—yeas 34, nays 30.

In the debate Messrs. Conkling, Morton, Sherman, and Lamar's stenographer's report was called for.

Mr. MORTON said it was evident that the bill was to pass, and predicted that it would prove the passage of the Fugitive Slave law and repeal of the Missouri Compromise, would leave behind it a feeling that absolute injustice had been done an element that must in its nature fester.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved an amendment providing that Congress may at any time alter, ament or repeal the law, and that nothing contained in it shall be construed to mean that the disposition which it makes of public lands shall be permanent. Lost.

The Senate took a recess till seven o'clock.

Evening Session.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the Agricultural College bill, the question being on the amendment of Mr. Morton.

Mr. WINDOM and other Senators claimed the bill was not dangerous, as it came from the House, but on its face recommendation that the committee be discharged.

Mr. POTTER presented a minority report, which was read. He denied and attributed the correctness of the committee's finding, that a man cannot be impeached or expelled for acts done before he was in office. He regards the question as unsettled and doubtful, but concludes that under existing circumstances, where impeachment could not be reached by trial, the decision of the House in support of the power to impeach or expel would only be to determine for an abstract question. He did not feel so justified in hoping that Congress had the power of impeachment as to recommend its course. He recommend impeachment at a time when an impeachment could be had to a trial. He thought the matter could now only be left to public opinion.

Mr. GOODRICH submitted his views why he dissented from the report of the majority. He affirmed the doctrine that an officer cannot be impeached or expelled for acts done before he was in the office. He believed that precedents for his position could be found, but even if they could not be he was prepared to make one a plant it broad upon which to lay the history of the country for its purity and safety in the future.

The reading of the reports occupied an hour and a half and they were listened to with great attention by the Senate.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, then moved that the two reports referring the matter to the committee be laid on the table.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved to move a recommittal to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. COX suggested that if recommitted all of the report referring to the acts of Credit Mobilers should be struck out as irrelevant.

Mr. BAYARD said it was a proper motion.

Mr. BUTLER replied to Mr. Cox in defense of the report, claiming that that part of it was not irrelevant. He had referred to it in the report of the Pulaski Committee.

Mr. BANKS—It is a most unworthy act to undertake to commit the House to the atrocious doctrines that the report brought. He trusted the House would not have the opportunity being given to discuss and sift and withhold judgment.

[Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. BUTLER—I assent to that.

Mr. CONKLING—I object to debate unless you withdraw your motion to lay on the table and give me the right to move to recommit, and withdraw your motion to lay on the table.

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Mr. BUTLER—I am only looking at the state of public business. I should like to discuss it for a considerable time. I should like to discuss the report and the report of the Credit Mobilier Committee, that committee has nothing to complain of. It has had the fullest opportunity. I should like to discuss it for a week, and am prepared to discuss it as long as grass grows and water runs. But I submit to the public business of the country. The Judiciary Committee has come to the conclusion, on a certain reasons referred to it, that under the circumstances it is not expedient to recommend impeachment, and it has given to the House the reasons why it has come to that conclusion. I do not know that any man who votes to lay the resolution on the table is bound by any portion of the report. What I do mean to say is, that all the members of the Judiciary Committee, with one exception, agree to the conclusion arrived at. No one is bound to the exact reading of the report.

Mr. BANKS—The report states that the Judiciary Committee wants to treat his question as an historical one, and if the report is to be accepted without opportunity for discussion it will commit to its doctrines every member who does not vote against laying the resolution on the table. The House has a right to complain that this Judiciary Committee has discussed questions which in no possible way were referred to it, and taken opportunity on the highest question of privilege, to impose irrelevant and unjust argument of a question which does not belong to the resolution referred to that committee.

Mr. BUTLER—Nor was the question of impeachment referred to the Credit Mobilier Committee, and yet that committee discussed that question at very great length, and nobody got upon a fury about it.

After a good deal of confusion and excitement, many members of both sides making efforts to be heard, Mr. BUTLER withdrew the motion to lay on the table, and moved to postpone the consideration of the subject till Wednesday next, after the reading of the journal. Agreed to—yeas 38, nays 29.

Before the vote was announced Mr. SPEER made the point of order that Mr. Conkling and Mr. Ames, who were interested in the question, had voted.

The Speaker asked Mr. Speer to state why those gentlemen should not vote.

Mr. SPEER gave as his reason that the fact that the report of the Judiciary Committee was to the right and power of the House to expel those members, and they were voting for the postponement of the resolution to a day certain.

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The reading of the reports occupied an hour and a half and they were listened to with great attention by the Senate.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, then moved that the two reports referring the matter to the committee be laid on the table.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved to move a recommittal to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. COX suggested that if recommitted all of the report referring to the acts of Credit Mobilers should be struck out as irrelevant.

Mr. BAYARD said it was a proper motion.

Mr. BUTLER replied to Mr. Cox in defense of the report, claiming that that part of it was not irrelevant. He had referred to it in the report of the Pulaski Committee.

Mr. BANKS—It is a most unworthy act to undertake to commit the House to the atrocious doctrines that the report brought. He trusted the House would not have the opportunity being given to discuss and sift and withhold judgment.

[Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. BUTLER—I assent to that.

Mr. CONKLING—I object to debate unless you withdraw your motion to lay on the table and give me the right to move to recommit, and withdraw your motion to lay on the table.

Mr. BUTLER—Perhaps I may.

Mr. CONKLING—If the gentleman withdraws his motion to lay on the table, I am sure the House will hear him at any length he may desire.

Mr. BUTLER—I am only looking at the state of public business. I should like to discuss it for a considerable time. I should like to discuss the report and the report of the Credit Mobilier Committee, that committee has nothing to complain of. It has had the fullest opportunity. I should like to discuss it for a week, and am prepared to discuss it as long as grass grows and water runs. But I submit to the public business of the country. The Judiciary Committee has come to the conclusion, on a certain reasons referred to it, that under the circumstances it is not expedient to recommend impeachment, and it has given to the House the reasons why it has come to that conclusion. I do not know that any man who votes to lay the resolution on the table is bound by any portion of the report. What I do mean to say is, that all the members of the Judiciary Committee, with one exception, agree to the conclusion arrived at. No one is bound to the exact reading of the report.

Mr. BANKS—The report states that the Judiciary Committee wants to treat his question as an historical one, and if the report is to be accepted without opportunity for discussion it will commit to its doctrines every member who does not vote against laying the resolution on the table. The House has a right to complain that this Judiciary Committee has discussed questions which in no possible way were referred to it, and taken opportunity on the highest question of privilege, to impose irrelevant and unjust argument of a question which does not belong to the resolution referred to that committee.

Mr. BUTLER—Nor was the question of impeachment referred to the Credit Mobilier Committee, and yet that committee discussed that question at very great length, and nobody got upon a fury about it.

After a good deal of confusion and excitement, many members of both sides making efforts to be heard, Mr. BUTLER withdrew the motion to lay on the table, and moved to postpone the consideration of the subject till Wednesday next, after the reading of the journal. Agreed to—yeas 38, nays 29.

Before the vote was announced Mr. SPEER made the point of order that Mr. Conkling and Mr. Ames, who were interested in the question, had voted.

The Speaker asked Mr. Speer to state why those gentlemen should not vote.

Mr. SPEER gave as his reason that the fact that the report of the Judiciary Committee was to the right and power of the House to expel those members, and they were voting for the postponement of the resolution to a day certain.

Mr. HOAR remarked that the same point would apply to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Speer) and to every member of the House.

The Speaker took the same view and overruled the point of order.

Mr. HOAR then desired, as a question of privilege, to offer a resolution instructing and instructions to inquire into the expediency of devoting the proceeds of the sales of public lands to the equalization of soldiers' bounties. This bill as it came from the House proposed, he said, to dispose of forever one-half of the public lands.

Mr. SHERMAN—Three-quarters.

Mr. WINDOM said he understood the bill to dispose of only one-half. But even on that basis it would in effect pledge the government to these colleges for the sum of $24,000,000, and he did not think the country could afford that.

At the suggestion of Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, and Mr. Conkling, Mr. WINDOM modified his motion to refer by striking out the instruction as to equalization of bounties, but said that as one of the members of the Committee on Public Lands he would keep that object in view.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, said that Mr. Sherman was wrong as to the quantity of public lands that the bill would take. It was one-half and not three-quarters.

THE CALDWELL CASE PUT OVER.

Mr. MORTON rose to a question of privilege and moved to lay the pending bill on the table for the purpose of considering the report of the committee on Privileges and Elections in the Caldwell case.

Mr. LOGAN moved to postpone the Caldwell case until to-morrow.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, thought it had better go over for the session of March.

Mr. MORTON—It is in the discharge of my duty that I urge this matter. It is for the Senate to determine what action they will take. If they pass it to-morrow, or until the 4th of March, and then drop it, the report will be worth but little.

The question was taken on Mr. Morton's motion to lay the pending bill on the table for the purpose of taking up the Caldwell case, and it was decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Alcorn, Allen, Casserly, Cole, Conkling, Cooper, Fenton, Ferry (Conn.), Goldthwaite, Hamilton (Maryland), Hamilton (Texas), Hill, Machen, Morton, Norwood, Pratt, Ransom, Sherman, Stevenson, Stockton, Tipton, Trumbull—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Blair, Boreman, Brownlow, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Dennis, Edmunds, Ferry (Michigan), Flanagan, Hamlin, Harlan, Hitchcock, Howe, Kelly, Lewis, McCreery, Morrill (Maine), Nye, Patterson, Pool, Ramsey, Rice, Robertson, Sawyer, Scott, Spencer, Sprague, Stewart, West, Windom and Wright—32.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AGAIN.

The Senate proceeded with the consideration of the Agricultural Colleges bill, when, after some of Windom's motion to refer the bill to Committee on Public Lands was lost—Yeas 17, nays 30.

Mr. WE-T moved to lay the bill on the table, for the purpose of taking up the Army Appropriation bill. Carried—yeas 34, nays 30.

In the debate Messrs. Conkling, Morton, Sherman, and Lamar's stenographer's report was called for.

Mr. MORTON said it was evident that the bill was to pass, and predicted that it would prove the passage of the Fugitive Slave law and repeal of the Missouri Compromise, would leave behind it a feeling that absolute injustice had been done an element that must in its nature fester.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved an amendment providing that Congress may at any time alter, ament or repeal the law, and that nothing contained in it shall be construed to mean that the disposition which it makes of public lands shall be permanent. Lost.

The Senate took a recess till seven o'clock.

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The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1873.

THE first manufactory of cotton cloth established in the Northwest was opened with proper dedicatory observances at Jonesville, Michigan, last Saturday. The working capacity of the new industrial enterprise is 125 looms and 3,000 spindles, and its product 3,600 yards of cloth per day. Within a comparatively few years the great West will probably become as famous for its manufacturing industries as it now is for its agricultural resources and productiveness.

THE principal business before the Legislature of the little State of Delaware, this session, seems to be the granting of the right of way to make a ship canal uniting the Delaware and Chesapeake bays. This canal is to cross that State and the eastern shore of Maryland, to enable the steamers bound from Baltimore to Europe to avoid the tedious passage around Cape Charles and Cape Henry. Five routes have been surveyed. The design is to have the canal sixteen feet deep, and if the general government will assist, twenty-six feet deep. This is an important commercial project, and it is gratifying to observe that it is being pushed with energy and decision.

THERE is no doubt of the fact that the case of Judge SHERMAN, of the Northern District of Ohio, is bad enough. It has been proved that he descended from his official position as a United States Judge to dabble in the disreputable business of lobbying, and that he voluntarily accepted a ten thousand dollar fee from the New York Stock Exchange for helping to get a certain measure through the Senate These things, however, afford no sort of justification whatever for the sneering allusions made by the opposition press to his relationship to Senator SHERMAN and General SHERMAN—illustrious names which the whole nation delights to honor. Let every tub stand on its own bottom. To strike at the innocent through the guilty is as cowardly as it is cruel.

THE recent recommendations of the Governor of Wisconsin to the Legislature of that State with regard to the passage of a law to prevent church fairs and lotteries, are beginning to bear fruit in other States. A bill for a similar object is now pending in the Ohio Legislature, with favorable prospects of its becoming a law. There is little question that these speculative scrambles are generally the beginnings of gambling, that they greatly foster and promote the spirit of hazard among those who indulge in them. The acquisition of money or property without labor is to the young as demoralizing as it is fascinating. If the Legislatures of Wisconsin and Ohio shall succeed in breaking up these practices and bringing them into discredit among thoughtful people, they will have performed an exceedingly meritorious public service. And so of other Legislative bodies.

IT is charged that, in the State of Indiana, where the Temperance question in one of its several forms is or was lately in agitation, the friends of the cause got thousands of names to their petitions by getting the signatures of children in the schools. We repeat the statement without vouching for its truth. If true, the fact certainly implies a laxity of morals not quite worthy of moral reformers. While some of the pupils in the public schools may be old enough to exercise judgment and express an opinion on the question at issue, a large proportion of them are not thus qualified, and it is to be presumed that the petitions were intended and understood to denote the wishes or will of mature men, constituents of the legislators to whom the petitions were addressed. Honesty, as a virtue, ought to rank quite as high as temperance; to the public it is fully as important.

CHICAGO, the Briareus of an hundred iron arms, is about to reach out another and grapple with the resource of a new, vast territory that has not yet paid it tribute. The project, which has assumed a definite shape, is the construction of an air-line railway from the former city to Duluth. That "city of the future" is to join iron hands with the city of the present, and the broad waters of Lake Michigan are to be united with those of Lake Superior. As now proposed, the road will run in a straight northwesterly course, between the Chicago and Northwestern and Chicago and Milwaukee Railroads. The name of the new line has been decided upon, and, as its course indicates, will be called the Chicago and Northern Pacific Air-Line Railway. It will be virtually an extension of the Northern Pacific Road, making Chicago the eastern terminus. The company was formed in New York, with a capital stock of $10,000,000 and an additional $10,000,000 in bonds.

THE PITTSBURGH *Post* is evidently almost crazed by the striking in of its own venom Speaking of the COMMERCIAL, that paper yesterday said:

"It has nothing to say upon the question, which now agitates this community more than any other, the pending bill in the Legislature to permit the citizens of Pittsburgh to express an opinion upon the Local Option. Where is its boasted independence?"

In the COMMERCIAL of the same date we stated that the people of these municipalities who are favorable to Temperance reform—

"Are not only earnest and emphatic, but unanimous in their demands for the enacting

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BANKERS,

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BONDS AND MORTGAGES,

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Bankers and Agents for the Syndicate,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

FINANCE AND TRADE

MONDAY EVENING, February 24, 1873.

The bill fixing the rate of interest in this State comes up again this week in the Legislature. Considerable opposition has been developed against any change, based on various grounds. Some of the opponents of the measure take high moral grounds and say that the "taking of usury" is forbidden in the Scriptures, forgetting that in this sense 6 per cent. or 1 per cent. is as much "usury" as 12 or 20. The old Mosaic law forbade the taking of any usury at all for money, cattle, tools or seed—a man who lent his neighbor his oxen, or all-wer, or seed corn, or any other valuable thing whatever, and charged for the use thereof, violated the Mosaic law. This prohibition, while it extended to everything it was possible to lend, was confined to brethren of the Jewish nation. Full permission was given to charge usury for money or any other article lent to a stranger, and no limit affixed as to the rate. Taking this law as a basis, it is as wrong to charge for the use of a horse or the rent of a house as for the use of money. A *reductio ad absurdum* that leaves the Mosaic law inapplicable to the present time. What the rate of interest should be, Moses was too sagacious to attempt to decide; but forbidding it altogether among brethren, he left the rate of traffic with strangers free to be decided by the parties interested.

The bill to be considered has not been framed in the interest of the creditor class, but rather in favor of debtors who borrow on long time, with real estate security.

The most earnest advocates of the proposed change are themselves borrowers, who have experienced the burdens of the present law. With the rates for money left as free as the rates for coal or corn, the needy borrowers, the laborers and mechanics who now pay exorbitant interest on the mortgages on their modest homes would find their interest accounts wonderfully lessened.

The State of Massachusetts has a larger laboring and manufacturing interest in proportion to the population than any other State in the Union. Her Legislature have given to her people perfect freedom in this respect.

Every careful observer of the world's financial unrest see that capital has always been pleading for a safe customer who is willing to take a loan at a moderate rate and give first-class security for it; and lenders, as a class, have never taken the attitude of the proud oppressor, exacting exorbitant rates and grinding the face of the poor. The lenders have the strongest motive in the world—that of self-interest to guard—them from extreme folly in conduct; for the slightest turn of the screw affects the creditor class more than any other.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	118½	118¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	116	116
U. S. Bonds of 1865	116	116
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	114¾	114¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867, new	116¼	116¼
U. S. Bonds of 1868, new	116¼	116¼
10-40s	114¾	114¾
New 5s	113¾	113¾
Gold	114¾	114¾
Currency 6s	114	114

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	114¾
United States 6s of 1881	118¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	115¾
United States 5-20s of 1864	115¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	116
United States 10-40s	114¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	116
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	116¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	116¼
Currency Sixes	114¾

—The following is an official copy of the amendment to the Bankrupt act, which is now part of the law:

Be it enacted, &c., That whenever a corporation created by the laws of any state, whose business is carried on wholly within the State creating the same (except insurance companies), may desire out of the State creating them and shall be subject to the provisions of this amendment, shall have had proceedings commenced against such corporation by the filing in the office of such State for the purpose of winding up the affairs of such corporation, and divesting the property of those entitled thereto, none of the provisions of an act entitled "an act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States," approved March 2, 1867, or which is an amendment, shall apply to any such corporation while such proceedings are pending.

It has reference solely to the winding up of certain corporations, other than insurance companies, letting them out of the pale of the National Bankrupt law.

—The capital stock of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at the time the supplement donating the same was passed, was $75,000,000, consequently by the act just signed by the Governor the company is authorized to increase it to $150,000,000. The company has authority to create a debt in amount equal to its capital. Thus the capital and debt of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company may, without further legislation, be increased to forty hundred millions! This is a large margin, and its limit will probably not be reached by even that enterprising and progressive company for many years yet. Because of the right to increase capital and debt it does not follow that it will be more rapidly availed of than is contained with an advantageous development of the company's traffic.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by George I. Whitney, Esq., broker and dealer in stocks, bonds and gold, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street:

	February 24, 1873.	11:30 (10:30 A.M.)	1:30 (12:30 P.M.)	3:30 (2:30 P.M.)
Gold		114¾	114¾	114¾
Western Union Tel		91	91¼	91¼
Pacific Mail		67¾	68	68
Wells, Fargo Express		90¾	91	91
New York Central		97½	97¾	97¾
United States Express		67¾	67	67
Erie		23¾	23¾	23¾
Michigan Central		103½	103½	103
Michigan Southern		85¾	85¾	85¾
Illinois Central		118	118	118
Cleveland and Pittsburg		90	90	90
Cleveland and Toledo		91	91½	
Northwestern		85¾	86	86
Northwestern, preferred		91¾	91¾	91¾
Rock Island		113¾	114¾	114¾
Fort Wayne		114¾	114¾	114¾
Ohio & Mississippi		30¾	30¾	30¾
Toledo and Wabash		46¾	46¾	46¾
Ohio and Miss. pref.		48¾	48¾	48¾
Chicago and Alton		109	110	110
Boston, Hartford & Erie				
Panama		127½	127½	
New Jersey Central			87	
C. C. & I. C.			97	
Hannibal & St. Jos.			27¾	
Atlantic Mail			51	

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, February 24, 1873.

REMARKS.—The weather is still extremely cold, and the market in consequence ruled dull. We have few changes in prices to note, and they will be found below. We may state that the prices quoted are wholesale unless otherwise stated.

APPLES—Still limited supply, the demand being light. A strictly choice article will fetch $1 50@1 75 per bbl. Receipts 240 bbls.

ALE—Prices have settled down to what they were before the late muddle. We quote X, $9 per bbl.; XX, $10; XXX, $10; India ale, $11. Trade active.

BEANS, DRIED—There is an improved demand, with sales at 50@60c per gallon.

BUTTER—Trade has an improving tendency. Sales are made at the following figures: Sola ash, creamery, 41@43½c; rolls, 40@42c; tubs, 39½@40c; prints, 41c; stencils, 39@42½c; mixed and solid, 34@36c.

CHEESE—Receipts of 47 packages. Choice roll is in request at about fair to good 20@22c.

BEANS AND PROVISIONS—We have not the slightest change to note in prices, and quote as follows: Sugar-cured ham, 15c; sugar-cured shoulders 8c; plain shoulders 6½c; ribs sides 8c; clear sides 9c; breakfast bacon 11½c; dried beef 18c; mess pork $15 00; plain sausage 10c; leaf lard, in tierces, 9c; in kegs, 10c; hams 10½c; pigs feet, in kegs, $2 50; hail 6 lbs $4 40.

GRAIN—Sales white navy at $2 50@2 75 ₱ bushel. The demand is fairly active.

HONEY—Market quiet and prices unchanged; sold at 30@35c ₱ lb.

BAKING POWDER—The demand continues active, and we are reported sales: Banner 1 ₱ cans, at $6 00 ₱ dozen; 5 lb cans $5 25; 10 cans $9 75.

GROCERIES—Market quiet and firm, though prices are unchanged. We quote: Java, 30@32c; Rio, Gold Coin, 15@16c; Rio, 14@15c; Laguayra, 16@17c; Mocha, 30@32c; Young Hyson, 60@70c; Gunpowder, 70@80c; Imperial, 60@70c; Japan, 50@60c; Oolong, 60@70c; Sugar-cured hams, 13½@14c; Sugar-cured shoulders, 8½@9c; Sugar-cured sides, 12½@13c; Sugar-cured breakfast bacon, 14@15c; Sugar-cured dried beef, 18@19c; Mess pork, $15 00@15 50; Prime mess pork, $14 00@14 50; Plain sausage, 10c; Leaf lard, in tierces, 9c; in kegs, 10c; Pigs feet, in kegs, $2 50; half bbls, $1 40; Hams, 10½@11c; Pickled hams, 9½@10c; Pickled shoulders, 6½@7c; Pickled sides, 8½@9c; Pickled breakfast bacon, 11½@12c; Dried beef, 14@15c; Mess beef, $8 00@8 50; Extra mess beef, $9 00@9 50; Prime mess beef, $7 00@7 50; Mess tongues, $12 00@13 00; Pickled tongues, $1 00@1 10; Pickled pigs feet, $4 50@5 00; Mackerel, No 1, $18 00@19 00; Mackerel, No 2, $16 00@17 00; Mackerel, No 3, $14 00@15 00; Mackerel, No 1, in kits, $1 75@2 00; Mackerel, No 2, in kits, $1 50@1 75; Mackerel, No 3, in kits, $1 25@1 50; Codfish, 6@6½c; Herring, $6 00@6 50; Scaled herring, 20@25c; Lake trout, $7 00@7 50; Lake trout, in kits, $1 00@1 25; Lake herring, $5 00@5 50; Lake herring, in kits, 75@80c; Lake herring, in half bbls, 40@45c; Lake herring, in kits, 25@30c; Lake herring, in half kits, 15@20c; Lake herring, in quarter kits, 10@12½c; Lake herring, in eighth kits, 8@10c; Lake herring, in sixteenth kits, 5@6c; Lake herring, in thirty-second kits, 3@4c; Lake herring, in sixty-fourth kits, 2@3c; Lake herring, in one hundred and twenty-eighth kits, 1@2c; Lake herring, in two hundred and fifty-sixth kits, 1c; Lake herring, in five hundred and twelfth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in one thousand and twenty-fourth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in two thousand and forty-eighth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in four thousand and ninety-sixth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in eight thousand and one hundred and ninety-second kits, ½c; Lake herring, in sixteen thousand and three hundred and eighty-fourth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in thirty-two thousand and seven hundred and sixty-eighth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in sixty-five thousand and five hundred and thirty-sixth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in one hundred and thirty-one thousand and seventy-second kits, ½c; Lake herring, in two hundred and sixty-two thousand and one hundred and forty-fourth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in five hundred and twenty-four thousand and two hundred and eighty-eighth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in one million and forty-eight thousand and five hundred and seventy-sixth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in two million and ninety-seven thousand and one hundred and fifty-second kits, ½c; Lake herring, in four million and one hundred and ninety-eighth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in eight million and two hundred and thirty-fourth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in sixteen million and four hundred and sixty-eighth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in thirty-two million and nine hundred and thirty-sixth kits, ½c; Lake herring, in sixty-five million and five hundred and seventy-second kits, ½c; Lake herring, in one hundred and thirty-one million and one hundred and forty-fourth kits, ½c; 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THE VERY LATEST.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Arrangement to Place Prince Alphonso on the Throne of Spain.

N. Y. Tribune Special.]

QUEBEC, February 24.—The nomination of candidates for Quebec, East Division, in the Provincial House of Assembly took place to-day. A furious riot began between the Conservatives and the adherents of candidates of the National party. Pistols, knives and clubs were freely used. About three thousand persons took part in the riot, which lasted an hour and a half. Two men were killed and many wounded. It is expected some of the wounded will die. The hustings were torn down and the candidates of the National party beaten. Armed police are now patrolling the streets in force and have dispersed most of the rioters. Conflicts in the streets are, however, frequent. The polling takes place on Monday next, when more serious outbreaks are apprehended, as Longevin has telegraphed from Ottawa that the government candidate must be elected cost what it may, and the supporters of the National party, on the other hand, are determined to elect their man, Pelletier. There is great excitement.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Voting Aid to the Proposed Ohio Valley Line.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, OHIO, February 24, 1873.

Last Saturday Morgan township voted no and Hamilton township voted yes on the railroad question by a large majority. Our citizens are jubilant over the result in Hamilton township, for if the Ohio Valley Railroad Company refuse to build the road we will in a short time have connection with Cincinnati. A railroad communication with Cincinnati. A corps of engineers connected with the Cincinnati and Ohio Railroad passed through here a few days ago locating a route.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, February 24, 1873, 7 P. M.

PROBABILITIES ON TUESDAY

For Eastern States, continued northwestern winds, with rising temperature. For Middle States, diminishing northwest winds and rising temperature. For South Atlantic States, continued low temperature, with northwest winds, veering to northeast during the day, with rising temperature. On Tuesday night an area low of barometer will descend from Texas to the Ohio valley. Fresh to brisk winds, variable, with occasional rain or snow, will then ensue, with cloudy and threatening weather. From Kentucky to Gulf coast, northwest winds, veering to northeast, with rising temperature from upper lakes to Dakota.

CITY MATTERS.

Letters Held for Postage.

PITTSBURGH, PA., February 24, 1873.

	Cents.
Henry Swartz, Dawson Station, Pa.	3
Moore, Tingue & Co., New York, N. Y.	3
A. C. Moore, Philadelphia, Pa.	3
Mrs. C. H. Meyer, Greensburg, Pa.	3
Wm. Longhlin, Cookstown, Pa.	3
Wm. Longhlin, Cookstown, Pa.	2
Miss Margaret Dahenny, Sewickley, Pa.	3
Miss Nettie Mortimore, Boston, Mass.	3
James E. Noble, Erie, Pa.	3
James Davis, Uhrichsville, Ohio.	3
John Lentz, New York, N. Y.	3
George Patchel, Uniontown, Ind.	2

JOHN H. KERSHAW, P. M.

The First Ward Contest.

The committee having in charge the disposition of the Fifth ward election contest met again last evening. Several witnesses were examined who testified to illegal votes having been cast at the election. The hearing being received the meeting was again continued.

"How Animals Move."

Prof. E. S. Morse, of Salem, will deliver the next lecture in the Young Men's Mercantile Library course, at Library Hall, this evening, on "How Animals Move." As the Professor is, comparatively, a stranger in the city, the following notice by Dr. McCandless, of Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* will not be out of place:

"It is not often that a truly scientific man gets the power of translating the results of accurate study in familiar discourse. And it is yet more infrequent that a public lecturer upon scientific subjects has the ready skill of drawing rapidly and accurately diagrams illustrating his theme. Those who attended the lecture of Professor Edward S. Morse, of Salem, Massachusetts, given at the Academy of Music under the auspices of the Franklin Institute, were totally impressed and delighted with his abilities as a delineator and instructor. At once lecturing, and drawing with admirable rapidity the outlines of which he treated, he unfolded, with great clearness of thought and simplicity of language, the orderly stages of growth in organic existence. And at first to last the delighted audience passed from surprise to surprise at the orderly development of a lecture was as entertaining as educating, and no portion of the audience failed to receive a valuable item of knowledge in a department of science usually regarded as the exclusive field of the savant. The infinite discretion of Nature in the wonderful community for the intellectual feast of the hour."

A Mysterious Death.

A few months since Wm. Nunns, a man about forty years of age, went from this city to reside at Johnston's Station, on the Allegheny Valley Railroad with his wife and family of children, about four years old. His wife was in delicate health, and it was understood in that neighborhood that the hope of bettering her condition had induced her husband to make the change. A history of the unhappy impression that he had ample means at his command, and a prevalent belief in the neighborhood is that his child, the little boy previously mentioned, inherited large property in some relation in Portugal, which formed the basis of the father's claims to wealth. The fact as it may, Mr. Nunns seems to have commenced a number of rather extensive financial negotiations, which came to naught because, as he put it himself, "he had been badly swindled." This condition of affairs created the suspicions that the new comers to Johnston's Station were "paralyzed." Wednesday last, after an absence of several days, Nunns returned to his home and to his surprise found his wife's health rather worse than it had been. Not long after his return he told Mrs. Gribbs that his wife would soon be better, as he had given her a few drops of croton oil. Shortly afterwards he left home and came to this city. Early in the afternoon his wife was taken a great deal worse, and suffered great agony from the terrible burning in her stomach. Mrs. Gribbs asked her why she had taken the oil that her husband had given her, and received to have answered that he made her take it, and that he had treated her badly. She continued to grow worse, and at five o'clock on Thursday morning she died. Nunns came back to the house during the morning, and remained a few hours, during which time he packed up a few of the articles belonging to him. Then, leaving the house for the last time, he went to make arrangements for the funeral. He did not return, however, and the next afternoon Mr. Wylie, an acquaintance living at Parnassus, received a letter from him, requesting him to have the body buried, as he could not be present. This request aroused some suspicion that all was not right, nevertheless the burial took place. Mr. Wylie then came to this city and visited the Mayor's office, where he related the circumstances as above. Their informant also stated that if the District Attorney would order a *post mortem* examination of the body he would proceed as soon as an inquest. The District Attorney was visited, when arrangements were made that at half-past three o'clock this afternoon evidence should be taken. The testimony elicited at this examination will decide whether or not an analysis of the stomach of the deceased shall be made.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

A Man Found in a Helpless Condition in Spring Alley—He is Brought to the Lock-up and Dies.

About eleven o'clock last night, while officer Sayres was passing along Eleventh street, his attention was directed to a man lying in Spring alley just back of the Rush House. The officer called assistance, and the man was taken to the Central Station House. Here it was discovered that he was not drunk, but had either fallen from some unknown cause and injured himself, or else had been assaulted and robbed while lying from behind in the back of his head. Physicians were summoned, but before their arrival the man was a corpse. It was subsequently ascertained that deceased was Philip Dolan, a harness maker, doing business at No. 446 Penn avenue. Mr. Wiggins, a neighbor, had seen deceased as late as five P. M. sitting a collar on a horse. He was not a drinking man, and the cause of his death at this present writing remains a mystery. The unfortunate man leaves a wife and four children residing on Lacock street, Allegheny. The remains were taken in charge by Mr. Alex. Aiken, undertaker, who placed them in a neat coffin, which was left in the Station house yard to await the Coroner's investigation to-day.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Collision on the Fort Wayne Road—Accident on the Pan Handle.

A collision occurred about eight o'clock yesterday morning between two freight trains on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, at a point three miles beyond Homewood station. At this point there is a very short curve and the two trains came clashing together, wrecking a number of cars. No one was injured. The New Castle accommodation train was delayed four hours by the accident.

A western-bound freight train on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway struck a broken rail about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, near the Saw Mill Run cottage, by which a number of cars were thrown from the track and badly wrecked. Two brakemen named Peter Gallagher and John Dunkell were severely injured. A number of trains were delayed by the accident.

An accident occurred on Sunday night to the second section of the last line East. The train ran upon a broken rail a quarter of a mile east of Beatty's station, and two Pullman palace cars on the rear of the train were thrown off the track and slightly damaged. No person hurt. The passengers from the two broken cars were transferred to the other two palace cars that were left on the rear train, and all proceeded onward after a delay of forty minutes.

FIRE ON SMITHFIELD STREET.

Bennett's Floral Establishment Partially Destroyed.

About ten o'clock last night the floral establishment of James Bennett, No. 132 Smithfield street, was discovered by Lieut. Joseph Irvin to be on fire. Mr. Irvin promptly dispatched officer Elton to the nearest box, No. 34, and the alarm was given. The engines arrived on the ground and water was being thrown on the fire almost before the alarm bell had sounded the number the third time, and streams were conducted to the flames on the first floor. A number of canary birds, and fish in aquariums, were killed by the heat and smoke, and a large quantity of garden seeds were destroyed. The firemen speedily drowned out the flames with a couple of streams of water. Fire Marshal Butler and Chief Engineer White made a thorough search of the premises, but failed to arrest the cause of the fire. Where the fixtures and the stove used in heating was quite a distance from upper stories of the establishment. The building is owned by Vandevort and Flowers, the former occupying the same as a residence. The wines and by Mr. Eberman, who had retired for the the latter gentleman, who had retired for the night, was almost awakened and became aware of the fire. The damage done to the building which is owned by W. G. Hawkins, Sr., is slight. About one thousand dollars will cover Mr. Bennett's loss, which is fully secured by insurance in one of the companies represented by Mr. W. L. Jones. As the owner of the store resides in Wilkinsburg, and had gone home for the night, it was impossible to ascertain the names of the companies carrying the insurance. As usual, the firemen did most excellent service. When dismissed by the chief the premises, by order of Fire Marshal Butler, were placed in charge of officer Elliot for the night.

LOCAL OPTION IN THE SEVENTH WARD.

Meeting Last Night in the Sixth Presbyterian Church—A Pledge to Support Those Members of the Legislature Who Vote for Local Option—Resolutions, &c.

Last evening there was held a meeting of the citizens of the Seventh ward, in the Sixth Presbyterian Church, Franklin street, for the purpose of giving expression to the feelings of the people of the ward in regard to the Local Option bill now pending in the Legislature. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. S. J. Wilson, and the singing of the hymn, "My Country, 'tis of thee." Dr. A. G. McCandless was then called to the chair, and the following list of Vice Presidents was adopted: Wm. M. Brown, Wm. Lemon, G. D. McElwain, Colonel David Fitzsimmons, J. C. Brown, J. K. Newman, Joseph Gray, Robert Montgomery, Samuel McMasters and Captain William Hope.

On motion the following Secretaries were elected: Robert Petty, Dr. J. Gray McCandless, Jason A. Brown, Wm. T. Miller, Wm. M. Gray, Henry Graybourn and the reporters of the press.

Dr. McCandless, on taking the chair, returned thanks for the honor conferred, and made a strong appeal to those present to stand steadfast in the cause of temperance.

A Committee on Resolutions, consisting of Messrs. McCreary, Miller, Snively and Rex, was then appointed.

During the absence of the committee Rev. Wilson, pastor of the church, made a hearty address in favor of the Local Option bill, which was frequently interrupted by applause.

The Committee on Resolutions returned at the close of the Rev. Wilson's address and reported the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, The scenes and circumstances of the citizens' meeting held in Old City Hall on Saturday evening, February 22d, (Washington's birthday), were of such a character as to arouse the indignation of every honest citizen, while *free speech* and *free ballot* were trampled into the dust by the tyrannic monster rum, as part of the citizens of our dear old Commonwealth, do thus assemble to give expression to our feelings on this great issue now before our Legislature; therefore

Resolved, That we do most emphatically condemn the conduct and action of those who, by such concerted action, would destroy our liberties.

Resolved, That we desire, expect and demand our rights as American citizens, that to grant which is sensible and discuss all great and moral issues that lie near the hearts of all Christian and patriotic theorists.

Resolved, That we, as voters of Allegheny county, respectfully appeal to the representatives in the Legislature to grant us the rightly to decide the issue now before the people of our beloved Commonwealth.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to our Members in the Legislature with a request to use all honorable means to secure the passage of the bill now pending in the House, or concurrence in Mr. Graham's Local Option bill, for a vote of the citizens of Allegheny county on the third Friday of April, 1873.

The resolutions were discussed at length and unanimously adopted.

The Chairman urged upon the meeting the necessity of carrying forward the work of temperance.

A gentleman suggested that petitions be prepared and signed by the people who favored Local Option, asking the Allegheny county delegation to stand by the bill.

Mr. Johnston said that although he was a Democrat, that, if Mr. McCormick, the Representative of the First district, would stand up for Local Option he would support him in case his desire re-election.

Mr. Robert Petty moved that a committee be appointed to draw up petitions to the Legislature favoring temperance.

Adopted, and Messrs. Petty, Miller and Snively were appointed.

Mr. Gray offered a resolution, pledging the support of those present to the Legislative candidates from this city who would vote for the Local Option bill. Unanimously adopted.

The committee on Petitions presented the following:

The undersigned citizens of the First Legislative District of the city of Pittsburgh urge our representatives in the Legislature from Allegheny and Pittsburgh, to use all his influence in securing the passage of the Local Option bill, which was before the House, and promise him our hearty support in future political contest, irrespective of party, in case of favorable action on this bill.

The form of petition was unanimously adopted, and a number of the sheets were circulated for signatures. So me fifty persons signed.

Mr. Petty announced that copies of the petition would be found to-day at Miller's grocery store, corner of Ecm and Wylie streets; P. R. Gras's drug store, corner of Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, No. 119 Smithfield street, and at other points in the district.

These present were then resolved into committees of two to obtain copies of the petition and circulate the same to-day for signatures.

A motion was then made that when the meeting adjourned it adjourn to meet on Wednesday evening at the same place. Carried.

Rev. Wilson made another stirring address, and after some excellent singing by Dr. McCandless, the meeting adjourned with the singing of the L. M. Doxology, Rev. Wilson pronouncing the benediction.

THE SCREEN BILL.

Meeting of the Coal Exchange Yesterday—Draft of a New Bill—The Conference with Miners To-Day.

The members of the Pittsburgh Coal Exchange and the Railroad Coal Producers's Exchange, held a meeting yesterday, at the office of Thomas Fawcett, Esq., at the corner of Water and Market streets, for the purpose of discussing the miners' screen bill, and appointing a committee to confer with a committee of miners to-day, at 146 Water street.

The meeting was called to order by electing Mr. Horner Chairman, and Mr. McIntosh Secretary.

Mr. McIntosh read a bill, and provided for the adoption of a standard screen, to be twelve feet long, five feet wide, and the screen bars one and a half inches apart. Also, that the miners' weights and wages seventy-six pounds should be one bushel, and that a reference to weights, &c., be struck out. After amending it so as to read that there should not be more than sixty feet of surface in the screen, on motion the section was adopted. The next section providing for the number of pounds to the bushel, was also adopted, making it seventy-six pounds net as a ton was struck out and the tailors adopted. The third section, providing that no car should be in use longer than three months without being branded, that it should be examined by a sworn sealer, and after, and if offener, at the expense of the miner, was also adopted. The fourth section, giving the employment by the miners of a check-weighman, was next taken up. It shall be the duty of the weighmaster of all coal, and in case of any differences between him and the owner of the coal, the matter in dispute shall be referred to the Sealer of Weights and Measures, was also adopted. The section providing for the punishment of any one who shall put a coal mine for fraudulently evading the provisions of the act was left out.

The following committee was appointed to meet a committee of miners to-day and see if a compromise bill could be agreed upon before the regular bill comes up again on Thursday next: Messrs. John Scott, Thomas Fawcett, Jr., Horner, Graham and Horner.

On motion it was decided to meet again at two o'clock this afternoon to hear the report of the Conference Committee, and then to take such action as may be found necessary. On motion adjourned.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

The case of John H. Bailey, assignee of Wm. J. Smith, bankrupt, vs. Blythe & Bettrich, was taken up. This was an action in trover to recover certain property, alleged to belong to bankrupt's estate, in the hands of defendants. On trial.

A petition was filed by Orlando J. Rowe, of Binghampton, New York, asking for the adjudication in bankruptcy of Ulrich B. Gillett, of Susquehanna Depot, Susquehanna county.

In the case of Daniel Seaman, bankrupt, of Union county, on petition of assignee, a preliminary injunction was granted against certain execution creditors. Leave was also granted assignee to sell certain real estate belonging to bankrupt.

Common Pleas—Judge Stowe.

In the matter of the estate of John G. Woods, deceased, a rule was granted on Isaac M. Pennock, late trustee of the estate, to show cause why an attachment should not issue against him, he refusing to be able on Saturday morning.

In the case of Melissa Thomas vs. Alexander Thomas, a rule was granted to show cause why respondent should not pay libellant an allowance for maintenance.

A *habeas corpus* was awarded against the Rev. R. N. Avery, Superintendent of the Home for the Friendless, commanding him to appear on Saturday with the body of Mary Donahoe, an infant child now in said Home, which he alleges that she is illegally restrained of her liberty.

In the case of Rosanna Geng vs. William Geng the jury found a verdict for respondent.

The argument list was called yesterday, and will occupy the attention of the court the entire week.

District Court—Judge Kirkpatrick.

The first case taken up was that of Charles H. Prescott vs. James B. Hill and Robert Stewart, an action in trover and conversion to the value of $1,000. On trial.

In the case of Daniel Parvey vs. James Giles et al, plaintiff's counsel made a motion for a new trial and filed reasons therefor.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

No. 10, George Wensel vs. A. A. Moore.
6. Alex. McClurg, for use, vs. Wm. T. McClurg.
20. M. B. Cochran vs. Samuel Dunifee & Son.
170. John Speer & Co. vs. Arnold Hertz.
16. J. C. McKnight vs. Thomas Mr. Wiggins.
18. John Huckestein vs. Geo. A. Bolland et al.

FIRE IN THE THIRTY-SIXTH WARD.

Several Houses Destroyed.

About 11:45 yesterday morning there was quite a fire in the Thirty-sixth ward, South Side. A pump, used by Brooks, Ballentine & Co., the oil men, had become frozen, and some of the employees, in order to thaw it, had built a fire around it. The pump itself caught fire and the flames were communicated to a saloon on Carson street, owned by J. Swettzer. This was a two-story frame building, and it rapidly fell a prey to the flames, involving a loss of about $3,000, including the building, bar fixtures, stock, &c. The building had been insured for $1,800, but the policy had run out on Saturday and was not renewed. The dwelling of Jacob Reisbeck adjoining, owned by Brooks, Ballentine & Co., was next destroyed, involving a loss of about $1,200. The flames then spread to the one-story frame occupied by Martin Williams as a barber shop, and also owned by B. & Co. This was burned also, entailing a loss of about $200 on the building and a like amount on the fixtures, &c., of the shop. The loss of Brooks, Ballentine & Co. is fully covered by insurance. There will be about $500, which is fully covered by insurance. The city lock-up on Carson street, next to the property burned, was also damaged. It was valued at about $1,000. A charcoal shed on the property of Singer, Nimick & Co. was destroyed to the amount of one hundred dollars. The Duquesne and Eagle steamers of the Fire Department were promptly on hand from Box 2 at the point, and proceeded as rapidly as possible to the scene of the fire. Their services were all important in quenching what might have been a disastrous conflagration, as there was a high wind blowing while the fire was in progress.

Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, the Health Physician, reports fifty-seven deaths in the city during the week ending February 23d, 26 were males, and 31 females, 57 were white and 0 colored. The causes of death were as follows: Accident, by burns, 1; apoplexy cerebral, 1; bronchitis capillary, 2; cerebro spinal meningitis, 2; consumption, 4; convulsions, 1; debility, 1; dentition, 3; dropsy, 1; enteritis, acute, 1; fever typhoid, 2; fever scarlet, 2; fever puerperal, 3; fever typhoid, 1; gastro enteritis, 1; jaundice, 1; lungs congestion of, 6; laryngitis acute, 1; malformation of heart, 1; meningitis sub-acute, 1; metro-peritonitus, 1; old age, 1; ovarian tumor, 1; paralysis general, 1; premature births, 1; pneumonia, 9; pleurisy, 1; scald, 1; small pox, 1; stricture of urethra, 1; still births, 5. The ages of those dying were as follows: Under 1 year, 15; from 1 to 2, 6; from 2 to 5, 6; from 5 to 16, 3; from 10 to 15, 1; from 20 to 30, 10; from 30 to 40, 5; from 40 to 50, 4; from 50 to 60, 3; from 60 to 70, 1; from 70 to 80, 2; from 80 to 90, 2.

The Funeral of Capt. Oxley.

The remains of the late Capt. Joseph R. Oxley, of Allegheny, will be interred this afternoon. The services will take place at the family residence, at three o'clock this afternoon. The pall-bearers of Pyramid Lodge No. 271, A. F. and A. M. and all printers, are invited to meet at Mayor Blackmore's office, to-day, at two o'clock, and at Mayor Callow's office at 2:30, to attend the funeral.

The Aldine.

The March number of this beautifully illustrated paper, the finest of its class in the country, has been received by the general agent for Pittsburgh, Mr. H. R. Williams, No. 57 Fifth avenue extension. Those who wish to procure the publication can leave their orders with him. This is the third number of the current volume, but the back numbers can yet be obtained.

PITTSBURGH COUNCILS.

Regular Meeting Yesterday—The Business Disposed Of—A Supplement to the Penn Avenue Act Discussed in Joint Session—Sundry Petitions, Reports, Ordinances, &c., Considered.

Councils met yesterday in regular session.

SELECT COUNCIL.

This branch came to order shortly after two o'clock, President Gross in the chair.

Clerk Morrow read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved.

Mr. Shipton presented a bill from the Controller in favor of John Fitzsimmons for the sum of $10 for license plates for vehicles. Approved and warrant issued.

Mr. O'Neill—A petition for the grading and paving of Fountain street. Referred to Street Committee.

Mr. Brown—A bill from Bennett Lake for $36 for serving street improvement notices. Ordered to be paid.

The same gentleman presented an ordinance for the erection of a frame building on the grounds occupied by Passavant's hospital. Passed.

Also an ordinance regulating the grading for Forty-fourth street. Referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Pearson—Petition for sewer on Twentieth street. Street Committee.

Mr. Watson—Petition for sewer on Penn avenue, from twenty-eighth to Thirtieth streets. Street Committee.

SECOND AVENUE.

Mr. R. H. Smith—The draft of an act of Assembly providing for the grading, paving and curbing of Second avenue, from Cross street to the city line. Laid over.

Mr. R. B. Brown—Remonstrance against granting J. Kelley & Co. certain right of way in the Twenty-fifth ward. Referred to Street Committee.

Mr. Burgwin—Petition from 145 citizens for settlement of a suit between the city and petitioner. Referred to City Attorney.

Mr. Aiken—Resolution requiring a committee of three from Select and two from Common Council, to ascertain if the Monongahela Wagon road can be bought by the city, and the price asked therefor. Laid over under the rules.

PETITIONS—ORDINANCES.

Mr. Kline—Petition and resolution authorizing the construction of a board-walk on McLain avenue. Laid over.

Also an ordinance for the construction of a board-walk on South street, Thirty-fifth ward. Referred to Street committee.

Clerk Morrow called the attention of the President to the fact that the order of the day for nine o'clock was before the House.

Mr. Burgwin moved to reconsider the resolution fixing the order of the day.

Before the matter was acted on, Common Council, adhering to the resolution passed at the previous meeting fixing the order of the day, filed into the Select Council chamber and the

JOINT SESSION

was organized, President Gross in the chair.

Mr. Burgwin, chairman of the committee, reported and read the following as the work of the committee:

A further supplement to an act entitled "An act to provide for the improvement of Penn avenue and other avenues and streets in the city of Pittsburgh.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the Councils of the city of Pittsburgh shall have power to authorize the grading, paving and curbing of the provisions of the acts to which this is a supplement, of any two or more connecting avenues or streets, or parts thereof, as one improvement, when petitioned by one set of commissioners, provided a majority in interest of the owners of the property to be assessed agree in writing to the connecting avenues, or streets, or part thereof, shall, as a petition, be deemed sufficient and sanctioned; and, provided, also, that the said councils of the city of Pittsburgh shall not authorize the grading, paving and curbing of any street or avenue under the provisions of the acts to which this is a supplement, unless the petition for the improvement shall exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. That the said section for Commissioners for the grading, paving and curbing of any avenue or street under the provision of the act to which this is a supplement, shall be so amended as to give one vote for every one hundred feet or less of property owned or assessed, and adjoining the street to be improved.

SEC. 3. That the cost of improvements of avenues or streets under said acts shall be assessed in the manner therein prescribed, within —— days after the completion of the work.

SEC. 5. That the letting of contracts for the improvement of avenues or streets under said acts and the execution thereof, and the power of the commissioners to determine the kind and description of pavement to be used upon said avenues or streets, shall be subject to the immediate supervision and control of the city authorities, under such rules and regulations as the Councils of said city shall by ordinance provide.

SEC. 6. That the 12th and 13th sections of an act entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled an act to provide for the Improvement of Penn avenue and other streets in the city of Pittsburgh," be and the same are hereby repealed.

A motion to take the draft up seriatim prevailed. The first section was then read.

THE CITY LIMIT.

Mr. Littell moved to amend the first section by changing the words "fifty thousand dollars" to "twenty-five thousand dollars."

Mr. Jeremy moved to further amend by striking out the words "petitioned by one set of commissioners" to fix any limit whatever would be to act contrary to the interests of the poor man. The gentleman thought that as the city had to pay for the property holders ten years in which to pay for street improvements, that it was only right that the poor man should have the same privilege.

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Mr. Hays thought it was important that Councils should act on this matter at once. He had read this charter over and over, and was prepared to act. He did not believe in procrastination, but in doing the work promptly when it came before them.

The question being taken, Common Council refused to concur in the passage of the resolution.

Mr. Follansbee offered a resolution for the payment of all claims of damages caused by the grading of Forty-fourth street. Referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Follansbee presented an ordinance repealing an ordinance, passed at last meeting, authorizing the grading, paving, curbing and flagging of Liberty street, in the Thirty-second ward. Passed.

Mr. Graham presented a petition asking that the ordinance passed by the borough of Birmingham, December 13, 1870, having special reference to the rights and privileges of the citizens residing along the line of the Manor Street Railroad, be enforced by the proper authorities. Referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Kline—Report of the bill of B. F. Wood, for dredging the channel of the Monongahela river, which, in Select, was referred to the Committee on Rivers and Wharves, in Common Council adhered to their action in approving the bill.

Common Council then adjourned.

LOCAL OPTION.

Public Meeting to be held in Allegheny this Evening.

The following call for a public meeting, "to give an expression of opinion upon the local option law," was issued yesterday. The meeting will be held this evening, at the Excelsior Hall.

HON. A. P. CALLOW, Mayor of Allegheny:—*Dear Sir*—The undersigned, citizens of Allegheny, believing that the interest of our city requires an expression of public opinion upon the local option law, do hereby request you to issue a call for a mass-meeting, to be held in Excelsior hall, on Tuesday evening, February 25, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

Sawyer, C. W. Batt,
A. Knox, John Davis,
A. C. Dilworth, H. A. Stephenson,
Joseph C. Ballif, John Herbert,
John R. Watson, S. B. W. Gil,
Hon. John Dalzell, Alex. Ramsey,
S. S. Dickson, H. Kennedy,
Rev. W. Hubley, J. C. McCombs,
John Ginn, L. H. Eads,
D. R. Brubaker, Jas. Miller,
Jas. Lynch, Jas. Hong, Jr.,
O. L. Miller, Geo. W. Campbell,
John Tappert, Sr., T. F. Bailey,
John A White, Jas. B Herron, M. D.,
A. C. Taggart, Capt. W. W. Martin,
Hon. Robert Dilworth, Dr. H. Morgan,
Capt. J. L. Kerr, Wm. Carson, Esq.,
Dr. M. A. Hall, Wm. B. Ross, Esq.

Messrs S. Iyer, A. Knox and others:

GENTLEMEN—In compliance with your request I hereby call a meeting of the citizens of Allegheny, to be held at Excelsior Hall at 7½ o'clock, on Tuesday evening February 25th, as per your request.

A. P. CALLOW, Mayor.

THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

Meeting Yesterday—The Proceedings o Saturday Discussed.

The regular weekly meeting of the County Temperance Alliance was held yesterday at eleven o'clock, Thomas H. Hogg in the chair, and Rev. C. A. Holmes, D. D., of Allegheny, opened with prayer.

On motion of Col. James Park, Jr., seconded by Rev. J. D. Herr, the officers of the preceding year were re-elected.

Very favorable reports were received in regard to the progress of the cause in Sharpsburg, East Liberty and Allegheny City.

The proceedings of the meeting of Saturday evening last, at City Hall, were discussed by several gentlemen. The general opinion was that the liquor men, by their course on that evening had done injury to their cause, and greatly helped the temperance reform. It was held by most of those present that the rights and privileges of the temperance men, as citizens, had been interfered with, by their not being allowed a proper hearing.

Col. Park claimed that the conduct of the local optionists on Saturday evening was in violation of law and order. A committee, representing the temperance community, had rented and paid for the hall, for a specific purpose, but it was taken away from them by the opposite party in a rude and improper manner, thereby depriving the proper party of a hearing. The law declared that the hall employed for the occasion had been interfered with, and therefore the parties had a right to perform their duty when it came before them.

The question being taken, Common Council refused to concur in the passage of the resolution.

Mr. Follansbee offered a resolution for the payment of all claims of damages caused by the grading of Forty-fourth street. Referred to the Street Committee.

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John A White, Jas. B Herron, M. D.,
A. C. Taggart, Capt. W. W. Martin,
Hon. Robert Dilworth, Dr. H. Morgan,
Capt. J. L. Kerr, Wm. Carson, Esq.,
Dr. M. A. Hall, Wm. B. Ross, Esq.

Messrs S. Iyer, A. Knox and others:

GENTLEMEN—In compliance with your request I hereby call a meeting of the citizens of Allegheny, to be held at Excelsior Hall at 7½ o'clock, on Tuesday evening February 25th, as per your request.

A. P. CALLOW, Mayor.

THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

Meeting Yesterday—The Proceedings o Saturday Discussed.

The regular weekly meeting of the County Temperance Alliance was held yesterday at eleven o'clock, Thomas H. Hogg in the chair, and Rev. C. A. Holmes, D. D., of Allegheny, opened with prayer.

On motion of Col. James Park, Jr., seconded by Rev. J. D. Herr, the officers of the preceding year were re-elected.

Very favorable reports were received in regard to the progress of the cause in Sharpsburg, East Liberty and Allegheny City.

The proceedings of the meeting of Saturday evening last, at City Hall, were discussed by several gentlemen. The general opinion was that the liquor men, by their course on that evening had done injury to their cause, and greatly helped the temperance reform. It was held by most of those present that the rights and privileges of the temperance men, as citizens, had been interfered with, by their not being allowed a proper hearing.

Col. Park claimed that the conduct of the local optionists on Saturday evening was in violation of law and order. A committee, representing the temperance community, had rented and paid for the hall, for a specific purpose, but it was taken away from them by the opposite party in a rude and improper manner, thereby depriving the proper party of a hearing. The law declared that the hall employed for the occasion had been interfered with, and therefore the parties had a right to perform their duty when it came before them.

The question being taken, Common Council refused to concur in the passage of the resolution.

Mr. Follansbee offered a resolution for the payment of all claims of damages caused by the grading of Forty-fourth street. Referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Follansbee presented an ordinance repealing an ordinance, passed at last meeting, authorizing the grading, paving, curbing and flagging of Liberty street, in the Thirty-second ward. Passed.

Mr. Graham presented a petition asking that the ordinance passed by the borough of Birmingham, December 13, 1870, having special reference to the rights and privileges of the citizens residing along the line of the Manor Street Railroad, be enforced by the proper authorities. Referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Kline—Report of the bill of B. F. Wood, for dredging the channel of the Monongahela river, which, in Select, was referred to the Committee on Rivers and Wharves, in Common Council adhered to their action in approving the bill.

Common Council then adjourned.

LOCAL OPTION.

Public Meeting to be held in Allegheny this Evening.

The following call for a public meeting, "to give an expression of opinion upon the local option law," was issued yesterday. The meeting will be held this evening, at the Excelsior Hall.

HON. A. P. CALLOW, Mayor of Allegheny:—*Dear Sir*—The undersigned, citizens of Allegheny, believing that the interest of our city requires an expression of public opinion upon the local option law, do hereby request you to issue a call for a mass-meeting, to be held in Excelsior hall, on Tuesday evening, February 25, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

Sawyer, C. W. Batt,
A. Knox, John Davis,
A. C. Dilworth, H. A. Stephenson,
Joseph C. Ballif, John Herbert,
John R. Watson, S. B. W. Gil,
Hon. John Dalzell, Alex. Ramsey,
S. S. Dickson, H. Kennedy,
Rev. W. Hubley, J. C. McCombs,
John Ginn, L. H. Eads,
D. R. Brubaker, Jas. Miller,
Jas. Lynch, Jas. Hong, Jr.,
O. L. Miller, Geo. W. Campbell,
John Tappert, Sr., T. F. Bailey,
John A White, Jas. B Herron, M. D.,
A. C. Taggart, Capt. W. W. Martin,
Hon. Robert Dilworth, Dr. H. Morgan,
Capt. J. L. Kerr, Wm. Carson, Esq.,
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A. P. CALLOW, Mayor.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Right Rev. Bishop Kerfoot will officiate in Trinity church, New Castle, on Sabbath next, morning and evening.

RUMORS of a railroad accident at Freeport, on the Kiski Valley Road, are current at an early hour this morning, but the telegraph fails to bring us particulars.

A HORSE attached to a wagon ran off yesterday morning, on Fifth avenue. The driver, in whose the horse was dashing along a stove fell out, striking a stone pile, receiving a severe cut on the face.

THE places of amusement were all well attended last night, and the audience at the Academy of Music expressed great delight at the fine performance of "Rip Van Winkle" by the McKee Rankin troupe.

HEALTH OFFICER HOCH made information yesterday before Mayor Callow against Charles Peoples & Co., miners, Sharpsburg, for violation of law in burying a person without obtaining a permit. A warrant was issued.

DR. W. H. THOMAS amputated the two fingers and a portion of the hand of Louis Alter, the man who was injured while at work at Charles's planing mill, Allegheny, a few days ago, mention of which has already been made.

THE Law Students' Association will hold moot court on Wednesday evening in the Common Pleas court room. Myers and Milligan will appear for plaintiff, and O'Malley and Jones for the defendant. Alex. G. Cochran will act